

The Truth About Florida

The Bunnell Home Builder

Edited by S. HOWARD

1115—108 So. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

JANUARY, 1917

Bunnell Colony offers great opportunities to Dairymen



PORTION OF A DAIRY HERD TO BE FOUND IN SOUTHERN ST. JOHN'S COUNTY
A FEW MILES NORTH OF BUNNELL.

What I Saw and what I Heard while in the Bunnell Colony on my recent visit.

BY THOMAS A. VERDENIUS.

On the afternoon of November 23rd I arrived in Bunnell, having left Chicago Tuesday night, November 21st. The Florida East Coast train, on which I traveled from Jacksonville to Bunnell, leaving Jacksonville a little after noon that day, was very crowded and some of the passengers were unable to find seats. I was told by hotel men in Jacksonville, also by train men and passengers, that people have been coming into Florida this fall and winter in greater numbers than ever before.

When I arrived in Bunnell I found there no exception to this statement, for as I registered at the Hotel Halcyon I found the names of people from the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Michigan and other states, as well as from British Columbia, Canada. A few hours later some traveling men and automobile tourists sought accommodations for the night, but the Hotel Halcyon and the Pine Grove Inn were filled to their capacity, so the proprietors of these hotels arranged for the accommodation of their guests in private homes for the night. This did not occur but one night while I was in Bunnell, but on several. It shows there is a great opening in Bunnell for a large hotel.

The rest of the afternoon and evening I spent visiting with the merchants and other business men in our little city. Each and every one of them seemed to be optimistic and happy and doing a big business. At this season of the year Bunnell receives her share of tourists and pleasure-seeking people who have come south to escape the cold winters of the north. Since the completion of the Dixie Highway one may easily count from forty to fifty automobiles in an hour passing through Bunnell, and it was a pleasure for me to stand and watch these cars, and note from the license tags the many different states from which they had come.

There is scarcely a day passes that one is not able to observe cars passing through Bunnell from almost every state east of the Rocky Mountains. They are working overtime these days at the large garage in Bunnell, and another party has recently rented a store building and is converting it into a garage, so that Bunnell will hereafter have two garages.

The next day, in company with President Moody, I visited the schools. More children are enrolled in the Bunnell school this year than in any previous year, and they now have four able teachers to instruct the youth of our little city. The plans are for the erection of a \$10,000.00 school building in Bunnell next year, and if there is one thing we need at Bunnell it is a good, up-to-date school building. The present building answered the purpose up to this time, but it is now entirely inadequate for the size of our town, and other towns in Florida not nearly the size of Bunnell have much better school buildings than ours. The truth of the matter is that Bunnell has

grown so rapidly it was impossible to foresee a few years ago that we would need such a building so soon. I found the school at Ocean City with an attendance of seventeen children, and the schools at Blackpoint, DuPont, Codyville and elsewhere well attended.

I want to say in passing that our town of Bunnell is growing as rapidly and doing as well as any reasonable man could expect. It has not had a "mushroom growth" or sprang up over night; but never do I visit Bunnell that I do not find a half dozen new buildings and other improvements that have taken place. It has always gone forward, never at a standstill, and I prefer a community with a steady natural growth than one that has its ups and downs.

I was especially anxious to visit our farmers, for I always feel that if our farmers are making a success, the business men as a natural result will be successful. It would be impossible for me to write of each farmer with whom I talked and visited, and furthermore let me say that so many people have lately settled on their farms that I should have enough material almost for a book if I should attempt to tell you something about each one of our settlers. Hence I shall have to talk largely in generalities.

One of our recent arrivals in Bunnell is a man from the "Golden State." This man bought twenty acres of land from us and left California for Bunnell a few months ago in a Ford automobile. It took him a little over a month to make the trip. I felt it was a rare privilege to meet a man of his type, and I am sure if we could get more people like him and his family to move to Bunnell, that the Bunnell colony would be heard of even more rapidly than it has been. This gentleman is putting his land in fine shape and planting several acres in Bermuda onions. In fact, most of our farmers are at this time preparing their land, for if you have ever visited Florida you will know that the latter part of November and the month of December are given over principally to the preparation for the early crop which will be shipped north next spring.

However, this former Californian is not the only one of our citizens who is interested in the growing of onions. The onion growers of Bunnell have had remarkable success so far. One of our settlers, who formerly lived in Georgia, showed me his wonderful seed beds in which he has 350,000 young onion plants of the White Bermuda and Crystal Wax variety, and told me that he made considerably over \$100.00 on his half acre of onions last year. He was also in the midst of setting out cabbage plants and I learned that he would set about 8,000 plants to an acre. This colonist further told me that if each cabbage had weighed on an average of but four pounds, which he assured me was but a small average weight, and if he could sell his cabbage for but three cents a pound (while the present market price is five cents a pound), the proceeds from

this one acre would almost pay for the thirty acre farm he purchased from the Bunnell Development Company.

Another man who had come from Tennessee has practically all of his land cleared and will plant it this winter to Irish potatoes, and a part of it to water-melons of a very early variety. I talked with another gentleman not far from DuPont, who was busy plowing. He told me that he had harvested last fall some of the most beautiful rice that was ever grown in Florida, and that he had a large quantity still stacked in his barn.

Mr. W. A. Mack, who made a record in potato growing last spring, and who was one of our very early buyers, has not only cleared that forty acres of land he first purchased from us, but has bought an additional ten acres and expects to plant forty-six acres to potatoes this year. We hope this hard-working man may have as good a crop and receive as good prices as he did last year, for if he does his entire potato crop this year will bring him approximately \$10,000.00.

The buyer who went with me to Bunnell last April and who settled on twenty acres of land at Blackpoint, has done considerable work. He has cleared eight acres of his twenty-acre farm and has a good field of sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes growing. The farmers of the Blackpoint district are keeping up their splendid record. I was too late to see the beautiful field of sugar cane grown by the Kilper brothers, but heard about it from a number of people. This cane was from twelve to sixteen feet in height, and Mr. Kilper told me he had a ready market for his stalks at two cents apiece, and that there were about 20,000 stalks to the acre. He is going to plant ten acres to potatoes this winter and two acres to sugar cane. He has twenty-five acres of land cleared and under the plow and expects to have thirty of his forty-acre farm cleared next year. Mr. Kilper has some fine sweet potatoes that averaged him 400 bushels to the acre. These sweet potatoes were planted after he had grown a crop of Irish potatoes on the land and he told me that he would have no difficulty in getting 75 cents a bushel, or \$300.00 an acre for his sweet potatoes. One of his neighbors, formerly from Idaho, has about thirty-five to forty acres of land cleared and expects to plant all of his land to potatoes.

Mr. Miller, a native Floridian, has ordered some two hundred and twenty bags of seed potatoes. These bags weigh about 150 pounds apiece, and about four bags are required for planting one acre; so according to these figures this gentleman will have from fifty-five to sixty acres in potatoes. Seed potatoes are very high this year, and our farmers in the colony have to pay about \$4.50 a bag. The variety they plant is the Rose No. 4.

New homes are going up here and there; new fields are being cleared. On

MR. VERDENIUS' RECENT VISIT TO BUNNELL.

(Continued.)

my way to Ocean City I passed the new home of Mr. Durrance, now under construction. I also had the pleasure of meeting Bunnell's new post-master, and he told me of the steady increase in mail and about our two rural mail routes.

Mr. Anderson, cashier of the Bunnell State Bank, seemed more enthusiastic about Bunnell than ever before. He told me that the bank now has over seven hundred depositors.

I do not claim to be "a prophet, or the son of a prophet," but if we have merely an ordinary crop this year I believe that the Florida truckers and farmers are going to have one of the very best and most prosperous seasons this coming winter that they have ever had. The whole country is short on all kinds of canned vegetables, the demand for fresh vegetables this winter is going to be enormous, and above all these was a serious shortage in the potato crop this past season. In a recent issue of the Financial Journal the estimate was stated to be around 300,000,000 bushels, which is more than 60,000,000 bushels short of last year's crop. More acres are going to be planted to potatoes this year in Bunnell and in St. John's county than in any previous year.

I found the weather very pleasant during my stay at Bunnell, and it pleased me greatly to find practically every one in the colony doing so well and feeling so contented.

As I was to leave Bunnell on Thanksgiving Day, I arose that morning about five o'clock. It was a beautiful morning and a great many people had arrived from nearby cities to spend the day hunting. I learned that the game was very plentiful this season. Mr. Robert Moody told me that he got nine quail in one shot. He is one of the best hunters of that community, and there have been seasons in Bunnell when he killed as many as a dozen deer. While at Ocean City, Mr. Cochran, who resides there, told me about a thirty-pound bass he had landed a few days before.

On Thanksgiving night I left Jacksonville for Chicago. The next day, as I traveled through Tennessee and Kentucky, I could not help but feel that my visit to the colony had been only a dream. Everything looked so different, especially as I traveled farther north and neared the end of my journey. Such a contrast between farming in Bunnell and farming in Illinois—in Bunnell three crops annually, in Illinois but one. Today our farmers in Illinois, as well as those of other northern states, are preparing themselves for a long, dreary winter; while the farmers in Florida and the Bunnell colony are preparing for their first crop, that they will have marketed before northern farmers have even started plowing their fields for their first and only crop in 1917.

Is it any wonder that so many Northern farmers are looking toward the farmers of the South with envious eyes and that they have made up their minds that at their earliest opportunity they will move to that country where there are fewer obstacles to overcome, and where Nature deals a little more kindly with them?



A two year old orange tree, a five year old boy and a four months old cat—What better proof do you need, that everything grows in the Bunnell Colony?

A LETTER WHICH DEALS WITH FACTS AND IS WELL WORTH READING

Bunnell, Florida, November 29, 1916.
Dear Mr. Verdenius:

I thought I would write you a letter and tell you how I like it in the Bunnell colony and what I am doing. It was in the spring of 1913 that I came to Bunnell and bought 40 acres of land from the Bunnell Development Company, and in the fall of 1914 we came to Florida to stay. It was on the 20th of October and we at once began clearing land, but did not get much ready for spring planting. However, I planted one acre to Irish potatoes, and they were fine. I had thirty-one barrels to sell at \$4.00 a barrel in Bunnell.

I planted the same land to sweet potatoes and dug 200 bushels of these all in one year. I sold these at 75 cents a bushel, and we had a fine garden almost all the year. I also raised enough hay to feed a team.

By the spring of 1916 I had more land cleared, and planted eight acres to potatoes and one acre to sugar cane. I dug my potatoes in May and they did fair for the season, but I had a crop of corn on the same land which yielded forty bushels to the acre. I also harvested two tons of pea vine hay from the same land.

I never saw anything as fine as the one acre I planted to sugar cane. It stood from twelve to fifteen feet in height, and there was all of twenty thousand stalks from the one acre. I now have two and a half acres of sweet potatoes to dig and I expect to have at least five hundred bushels and to sell same for 75 cents a bushel. I also have a small patch of fall Irish potatoes for which I should get \$2.50 a bushel. I expect to have these ready for shipment about the early part of January.

We have a fine patch of strawberries that are getting ripe now. We have plenty of cabbage, beans, peas and all kinds of greens right fresh from the gar-

den, and that is something worth while. We have a few chickens, some hogs and a cow. Mother takes care of the garden and chickens.

My brother and I came to Bunnell from Iowa, and now have twenty-five acres under cultivation. I will plant ten acres to spring potatoes, two acres to sugar cane and four acres to oats. Of course these will all be planted by the last of January. Then I will have lots of small patches to plant later on.

It suits me O. K. in Florida. I find this country is far ahead of any of the northern states for the man who wants to work. Here a fellow don't have to haul a big lot of coal to keep from freezing, or get out in the morning and shovel snow until noon to do his chores. It is the Bunnell colony for me and mine. This is a healthy place in which to live and one can get good water at a depth of from 25 to 30 feet.

I would like to say to the homeseeker who desires to live in a good locality—come to Bunnell where you will find good churches, good schools, good people and many other good things which I do not have the space to mention; where life is worth living the year around.

I have found the officials of the Bunnell Development Company to be square in all the dealings I have had with them.

Yours truly,

CHRIS KILPER.

SPUDS FOR SUDS, ARE LEGAL TENDER

(From Pittsburg Post of Nov. 20, 1916)

Danville, Ill., Nov. 19.—Potatoes are legal tender in Danville since the price has gone so high. At a local saloon a vegetable peddler presented a large potato of the vintage of 1916, after he had been served with a glass of beer. The bartender looked it over, testing it for soundness, and then threw three pennies on the bar.

"Your change," he said, with a nonchalant air.

Every Day Happenings in and Around Bunnell as Contributed

Mr. E. D. Henson, of Codyville, is planting a large acreage to cabbage this week. Mr. Henson is one of our most progressive farmers. He has a hundred and sixty acre farm at Codyville which is considered one of the best farms in this part of the country.

Mr. O. N. Jackson is supplying the Bunnell merchants with nice head lettuce.

Mr. A. S. Fowler reports an exceptionally good bed of strawberries at his farm on the Deen road just west of Bunnell.

Mr. J. B. Johnston has a very fine field of turnips in his hammock land just this side of his home on the Deen road.

Mr. W. A. Mack expects to dig his crop of fall Irish potatoes next week. He has already dug some of them which have proven to be of fine quality.

Mr. F. S. Crowson brought in two loads of fine sweet potatoes Thursday morning which he sold to the Bunnell Mercantile Co.

Mr. Z. G. Holland continues to furnish the Bunnell merchants with nice fresh turnips.

Mr. B. M. Dowdy has just finished planting his garden next to the Tribune office to cabbage. The rows are a little crooked, but Mr. Dowdy says he can plant more in a crooked row than he can in a straight one.

Mr. Charlie Jordon is very busy clearing his five acre tract in the rear of his farm, which he will immediately put under cultivation. There is no doubt but what Charlie will be one of our largest farmers within the near future. He is already one of our best ones.

Kilper Brothers, who own a nice farm in Black Point, have an exceptionally good crop of sugar cane this year. They brought some to town this week that measured fifteen feet high. Their crop is estimated at twenty thousand stalks to the acre. It is meeting with ready sale in Bunnell.

The road leading south toward Ormond has been opened up, thereby making it easier for pleasure seekers to reach this place.

If the high price of living worries you, you should move to Ocean City, for a good many sea bass weighing on an average of twenty-five pounds have been caught by Mr. W. H. Lewis during the last few days.

Mr. R. L. Rasmussen, of Chicago, who recently moved to Bunnell, has purchased the Bunnell Tonsorial Parlors from Mr. C. A. Smith and will take charge at once.

Mail Carrier F. A. Rich, who was awarded the contract for carrying the mail between Bulow and Bunnell, was on the job early today, he arriving in Bunnell at 7:15 this morning on his first trip. He is circulating a petition to have the route changed so that he will leave Bunnell after arrival of train 29, returning by 4 o'clock p. m.

Mr. J. C. Williams, wife and daughter of British Columbia, Canada, arrived in Bunnell Tuesday. Mr. Williams owns ten acres of land one mile south of the home of Mr. Mack, which, after inspection, he expressed himself as being well pleased with. He expects to make Bunnell his future home.

Mr. J. E. Vaught and family of Bristol, Tenn., have come to the colony to make their home. They purchased property here several years ago, and Mr. Vaught has also bought the Rowell farm in Section 21. There are eight acres under cultivation in this farm, which Mr. Vaught will have prepared for planting at once. He expects to plant cabbage, onions and potatoes. Mr. Vaught has also selected from the Bunnell Development Company a nice ten acre tract of farming land two miles south of Bunnell, for Mr. Francis, a friend of his in Bristol, Tenn.

Our Bunnell school is growing in enrollment and interest. We expect to have one hundred and twenty-five in attendance by the first of January. This was examination week and the teachers report good papers from most of the pupils. Prof. Hayes has secured the vacant lot across in front of the Methodist church from Major Lambert for the boys' playground. The school yard will be given to the boys of the primary grades. The next thing he is to bring about is a tennis court for the high school department. We hope to see some real good sports as well as good pupils inside the school. The high school is now practicing on their new play to be rendered at the close of school for Christmas. This play is being coached by Mrs. Vaught, and without any doubt will be a great success.

The Order of Eastern Star held an interesting meeting in the Bunnell Masonic Hall on December 5.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Rich entertained about twenty of Bunnell's young people Thursday evening at a masquerade party at their home on the Dixie Highway in North Bunnell.

Owing to the approach of the winter months several swine have met their fate recently. Mrs. McArn killed a ten months' old pig that tipped the beam at 173 pounds net.

Mrs. M. H. Milliken and son of Chicago have again returned to Bunnell, and will spend the winter here.

Mr. A. Lambert brought in to town this week two fine samples of fall Irish potatoes. These potatoes are just as fine as were grown in the springtime. Besides his fall potato crop, Mr. Lambert has a fine garden of truck, including onions, strawberries, etc.

The bazaar held recently by the Helping Hand Society was a great success. Refreshments were served, and a splendid variety of fancy work was displayed and sold.

The hunting season for all kinds of game is now on, and hunters may be seen wending their way to the woods and old fields seeking particularly to bag some of the numerous quail that infest this part of the state.

Visitors to the Blackpoint school last Thursday were Miss Floyd, Miss Godbey and Mr. C. M. Bevan. Miss Floyd gave a talk on poultry clubs, after which Mr. Bevan read several selections for the amusement of the children. Mr. Bevan seemed pleased with the progress of the school.

A new concrete floor has been laid in the building occupied by the People's Garage, which is now open for business. Mr. Jess Johnson is the head mechanic and has moved to Bunnell.

December 27 is to be a big day for the Masonic Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star. They will first march in a body to the M. E. church, where they will be addressed by some prominent Mason. Later they will return to the lodge hall, where officers will be installed and a banquet will be served in the adjoining rooms to the members of these two lodges and their families.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Bunnell of Mitchell, Iowa, arrived in Bunnell this week. They own some valuable land here and expect to spend the winter in Bunnell. They have rented some rooms at the Brandenburg home, where they are keeping house.

There are two Mr. and Mrs. Bunnells who have bought land in the Bunnell colony. We believe that they should feel especially at home here.

Mr. F. G. Scott, of Westfield, N. Y., who purchased a nice tract of land in Black Point several years ago, arrived this week to look over his holdings here. He is well pleased with Bunnell and surrounding country, and contemplates having his land put under cultivation.

A party from St. Johns Park passed through Bunnell Thursday en route to Ocean City, where they spent the day fishing.

Miss Mary Vasey, who lives just west of Bunnell, brought in some new fall potatoes this week which brought high prices.

by our Bunnell Correspondent During the Month

The Bunnell Garage & Auto Company will install two filling stations on the Dixie Highway; one to the north of Bunnell and the other between Bunnell and the home of Mr. Moody.

Mr. George R. Burnsid, of Espanola, one of our oldest settlers, has purchased from Mr. I. I. Moody his thirty acre farm two miles south on Moody road. Mr. Burnsid will move to his new home within a short time. He expects to plant a large acreage to potatoes the coming season. He will also grow all kinds of vegetables, etc.

Crops were not damaged by the recent rainfall and the farmers are very busy setting their cabbage fields and preparing for the enormous potato crop in the spring.

Since building his home on the corner of Lambert avenue and Bacher street, Mr. Charles Harris, chief of police of Bunnell, has realized the value of Bunnell property, consequently he purchased three town lots adjoining his homesite from the Bunnell Development Company this week.

Mr. J. B. Parker has moved into his new house out on his farm on Sweetwater Highway.

Surveyors have been at work surveying the new road through Malphursville to St. Johns Park.

Mr. J. Barger, of Jamestown, N. Y., arrived in Bunnell this week to look over the lands of the Bunnell Development Company. After looking over several sections he purchased a ten acre tract in Section 29 at Black Point. He expressed himself as being well pleased with this country. He will make arrangements to have his land cleared.

Mr. J. L. Jones is hauling out his fertilizer this week which he will use in planting a nice acreage to onions.

Mr. J. L. Councill reports ten acres of fine sweet potatoes on his farm just south of Bunnell which he will begin digging soon.

Mr. George Salyerds, of Russell's Landing, was in Bunnell Wednesday. He brought over a load of chickens and sweet potatoes which he shipped to St. Augustine.

Mr. R. C. Miller has accepted a position with Messrs. Sessions and Turner as head trucker of their farm just south of Bunnell and will immediately plant quite a great deal of different truck, among which will be cabbage, onions, strawberries, etc.

Mr. C. C. Jordan has just finished digging his fall Irish potatoes. He will immediately plant this ground to cabbage. Charlie says his yield of potatoes was not very large, being only about 40 bushels to the acre, but as new potatoes are selling for \$3.00 a bushel he has no kick coming. He reports his strawberries in first-class condition.

Mesdames E. W. Johnston, C. A. Smith, Miss Deolia Smith and Mr. Hobart Barber were among those gathering oysters on the canal this week.

Dr. M. St. Peter has purchased from the Bunnell Garage & Auto Company a new Maxwell roadster. Doc. has been demonstrating his driving qualities this week which are very good?

Mr. O. C. Mosby, who already owns quite a large farm in that section, purchased forty acres adjoining his farm this week from the Bunnell Development Company, through Mr. Verdenius. This land is considered among the very best there is in the state, and is rapidly being sold. Mr. Mosby paid \$50.00 per acre for his forty acre tract.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLVE THIS TIME?

The day of New Resolves is almost here, the day that many of us will spend in a measure in reviewing the year just past, in thinking over the joys and successes that have come to us, and perchance in recalling the disappointments and failures that have beset our pathways. But whatever the year may have brought us is past, this is the day when we should "forget the things that are behind, and reach forward toward those things that are before."

We are about to turn the last page on the old year, and then will greet our eyes a new, clean sheet. What will be written thereon depends largely upon ourselves. It is true that adversities, sickness and death may come to us and thwart our plans; but barring these, it will largely depend upon ourselves, and upon ourselves alone, as to what the New Year will bring us.

On this day of "turning over a new leaf" no doubt there is uppermost in the minds of many the desire to get ahead in the world a little more during the coming year, to save a little more than in the year just passing, and thus attain to the solace of an old-age provided for.

It may be impossible for many readers of the HOME BUILDER to accumulate money in large sums, but after all, do you not know that it is the "little drops in the bucket" that count? If you are the fortunate owner of a farm-home in the Bunnell colony, give thanks for it on this New Year day, and resolve to make it a little more valuable to you during the coming year; resolve that you will make it provide for you and for your comforts in the years to come. You can do it if you will.

And may I say this: To you who have not yet secured some of our land—a farm in the midst of a community teeming with possibilities, resolve this day that you will become the owner of such a home and set about saving your pennies, your nickels and your dimes toward the payment of this home.

It is a wonderful incentive in life to have something to work for, some goal to be attained, and surely there can be no better goal in view than a Home of Your own, for

"He who owns a home of his own,
If only a cottage with vines overgrown,
Of the pleasure of life gets a larger
per cent
Than his haughtiest neighbor who has
to pay rent."

For the man who wins is the man who works,
Who neither labor nor trouble shirks;
Who uses his hands, his head, his eyes.
The man who wins is the man who tries.

—By Charles R. Barrett.



Dock at Ocean City.



(See opposite page for description of the above pictures.)

CHURCH NEWS FROM THE BUNNELL COLONY

On the opposite page we have reproduced a few photographs which were furnished us by Mr. Chas. Harris, Secretary of the M. E. Sunday School in Bunnell. These pictures are numbered from one to eight and are as follows:

1. A few of the Sunday School Classes in the M. E. Church at Bunnell.
2. Portion of the Men's Bible Class at Bunnell, recently organized by Rev. Ramsey. This class has an enrollment of about twenty-five members.
3. Mrs. Lowridge's Class in the Sunday School.
4. Mrs. Session's Sunday School Class.
5. Boys and girls of Mrs. Abbott's class. Mrs. Abbott is one of the prominent W. C. T. U. workers of Florida.
6. Class of young ladies. Teacher, Mrs. Heath.
7. Primary Class. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Lambert, teachers.
8. A group of people at the close of preaching service on the beach at Ocean City, where Mr. Ramsey holds services every Sunday afternoon.

The Methodist church now has a membership of considerably over one hundred, with an enrollment of about one hundred and forty in the Sunday School. Much of the credit for the church's growth and activity is due to the young pastor, the Rev. R. L. Ramsey, who was just returned to our little city by the recent annual conference held in Ocala, Florida.

At the present time four religious denominations are conducting services in our colony; the oldest being the Methodist Episcopal church, next the Catholic church in the southern portion of the colony, the Christian church, and in July the Seventh Day Adventists of the colony held a series of meetings, receiving a number of members and that denomination is now building a new church east of Bunnell.

The constant growth of our Bunnell district can be emphasized in no better way than by observing the enlarging of our public schools, the erection of new school buildings and churches.

It is a foregone conclusion that since the Bunnell colony is being settled by people from almost all parts of our great country, from almost all walks of life and representing different nationalities, that churches of different denominations will be erected; and while men and women cannot fully agree as to their religious tenets, we realize the fact that each in his or her own way is working to the same end—for the betterment of mankind. And so we always rejoice in every enterprise for public good, be it the building of a church or the erection of school buildings.

*Sometimes it seems to me I must
Just quit the city's din and dust,
And get out where the sky is blue
And, say, now, how does it seem to you?*
—Eugene Field.



Baptismal service in Florida, East Coast Canal at Ocean City.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS HOLD BAPTISMAL SERVICE IN THE FLORIDA EAST COAST CANAL AT OCEAN CITY.

More than twenty people were recently baptized in the canal at Ocean City by the pastor of the Seventh Day Adventist church. These converts have all united with the Adventist church, whose members keep the seventh day of the week (Saturday) for worship instead of Sunday. They believe in plainness of dress, in healthful living, abstinence from strong drink, tobacco or in popular forms of amusement, such as dancing, theatre attendance and card playing. They obligate themselves to pay one-tenth of their incomes for the support of the gospel.

This denomination worships at the present time in the Woodman's Hall above the Tribune building. They have a Sunday School with about forty members.

The above picture was taken at Ocean City on Sunday, November 25, and shows a few of the applicants for baptism entering the water. At the time of the baptism two boats were passing down the canal on their way to Palm Beach, and are shown in the picture. The thought of such a baptism in the canal on one of the latter days of November brings to mind the contrast between Florida's climate and that of the northern states.

The Seventh Day Adventists have begun the erection of a new church building, and as soon as it is completed they will move into their own house of worship. Some of our very best citizens and most successful farmers are members of this church, and we trust that if all Adventists are like them that many more such families will locate in our colony. The colony is open to all good citizens, and the more who come the better we like it.

It is the policy of the Bunnell Development Company to show no favoritism to any creed or organization, but welcomes all who stand for the upbuilding of humanity.

"THE MORE I SEE OF THIS COUNTRY THE BETTER I LIKE IT"

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius.

Dear Sir: I have been in Bunnell three weeks today, and the more I see of the country the better I like it. In fact, I like it so well that I have purchased ten acres more, thus making me a total of thirty acres.

I think there is a great future for this section of the country.

I expect to plant some onions, cabbage and potatoes for my early crop.

I received an order today from one of my friends in Bristol, Virginia, asking me to select him a ten acre farm.

It is hard to realize that you people in the north are having cold, snowy weather, while down here we are sitting on the porch enjoying the warm sunshine. I have seen several nice gardens throughout the colony.

Wishing you every success in your future business, I remain

Yours respectfully,

J. E. VAUGHT.

PENNSYLVANIA MAN NO LONGER CONTENTED WITH HIS STATE AFTER A VISIT TO BUNNELL, FLORIDA

Gentlemen:

The Bunnell colony is O. K., much better than I ever expected to find it. I was so well pleased with my land that I bought ten acres adjoining it.

I am trying very hard to arrange business so I can go back this fall. This morning when I got up our windows were covered with ice, after a very cold night, and I thought what will it be before next April? I really think I shall go back to Bunnell this fall, for the weather is so fine there.

Please send me the HOME BUILDER, for I enjoy it very much.

Yours very truly,

ORVILLE L. PROUTY.

(Pennsylvania.)

Korona Section of the Colony making steady and permanent improvements.

For the information of any of our readers who may not be familiar with the location of Korona, we would say that this is a sub-colony of the Bunnell colony. It was founded by Mr. Edw. Slupecki and other prominent Poles of Chicago, Illinois, about three years ago. The Korona railroad station is some four miles south of DuPont and about eight miles south of Bunnell.

These thrifty foreigners of Korona have made wonderful strides, having cleared a great deal of land. We are fully convinced that Korona has a great future, and so it has not seemed amiss to reproduce in this issue of the HOME BUILDER several pictures recently taken in the Korona colony. We expect quite a number of new settlers in the Korona district this winter.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOUND BY THIS FAMILY IN FLORIDA

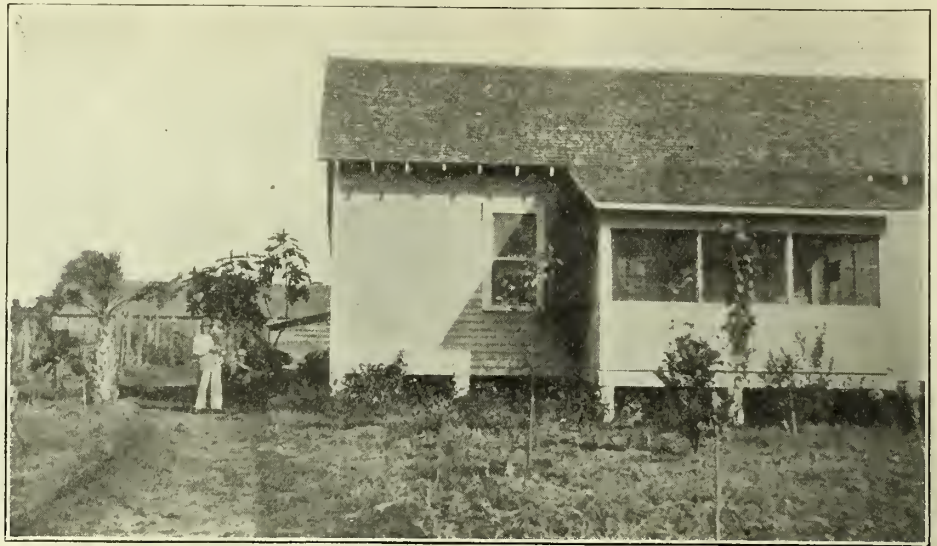
Korona, Florida, December 10, 1916.

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

Reading the HOME BUILDER I have noticed from time to time many letters from others in the Bunnell colonies, and therefore I decided also to write you a few words concerning my experiences in our Polish colony—Korona.

As you know, Mr. Verdenius, I came to the colony three years ago from the city of Chicago, where I was working in a large tailor shop. My wife was always sick of Chicago, and that was the reason why I left the city and went to the farm. I came to the colony alone, and after two months my wife arrived with three of our children. My wife was very ill at that time, also the youngest of our boys was sick; but after being here for a few weeks they both began to enjoy good health, and now all of our family, which is four children, wife and I, are all strong and healthy, and the Florida climate did this.

You also know, Mr. Verdenius, that the first year is usually the hardest time for a new settler, so it was for me also. The



Neat and attractive home of Mr. Mazurewicz at Korona.

second year it was better, and now still better. I have cleared about ten acres of my land; last season had planted about four acres of Irish potatoes, which I sold for four hundred dollars. After the potatoes and on the rest of my cleared land I had corn and cowpeas, also a fine patch of sweet potatoes. I have enough hay and corn to feed my cow, mule and chickens.

We are very satisfied with this country, and I would advise everyone who has land in this colony to come here and begin clearing their land, prepare it for a crop, enjoy the beautiful climate we have here in Florida, and start to be independent and free. I am sure that anyone who has enough money to start with, and who is not afraid of work, can make a fine future for himself and his family.

My final word in this letter to every one in the north, would be to run away from that high rent and high cost of living, and last, but not least, run away from snow and ice and come to sunny FLORIDA.

Yours truly,

J. STRACH.

FIRST STRAWBERRIES BRING 80 CTS. QUART

Plant City, Nov. 29.—The strawberry season may be said to have opened, although as yet in but a small way. The first shipment went forward Saturday, and consisted of seventy-seven quarts which went to Philadelphia. The price realized by the growers was about seventy-five cents per quart. On Monday there were 150 quarts and the price was around eighty cents per quart. These berries were divided and went to New York, Boston and Philadelphia. With the continuance of favorable weather berry shipments in a week or two will attain considerable proportions and will put in circulation considerable money.

Land in the Bunnell colony is splendidly adapted to the growing of strawberries, as has been thoroughly demonstrated. More of our farmers should be setting out beds and getting into line for making some of this strawberry money.



Mr. J. Strach and family on their Korona farm.
Note beautiful palm tree in back ground.

At this Christmas season it may seem to many almost mockery to voice again the old refrain of the angels to the shepherds on that far-off Judean hillside, "On Earth Peace, Good Will Toward Men." Today throughout the world there is strife and bloodshed and men have seemingly forgotten that we all are brothers. We bow our heads in sorrow, but above the carnage and the strife there still rings in our ears, clear and sweet, that first glad Christmas carol - "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

And so we trust that somehow, someday, peace may come to the hearts of men and women bowed down in sorrow, and that the real Christmas spirit may not be lost.

With this hope to comfort us, I feel that I again may wish for the readers of the Home Builder, far and near, a happy Christmas season and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Thos. A. Verdenius.